

To Sir Wm. J. Hooker -

London 13. Sept-

My dear friend, The "penny postage system" not being yet in operation, I embrace ^{the} opportunity that offers to send you a line in Pamphilius parcels. I am again in London you see, indeed I have been here about a week, but it is only today that I have had intelligence of your return to Scotland. I had some hopes that I should find you in London on my arrival or that you would return here from Chatham, and that I should have the gratification of seeing you once more. I received your welcome letter of August 14th at Berlin for which I thank you much, I wish my friends at home were half as prompt correspondents, while on the Continent I have received precious few letters -

I have been much interested at Berlin and worked hard. The Herbarium of Widenow is larger & in better condition than I had supposed, & the general Herbarium is very interesting & rich. Klotzsch is very industrious and has put the whole collection in much better order than most of the Herbaria on the Continent. I am under great obligations to Dr. Klotzsch, who not only afforded me every facility at the Herbarium, but most cheerfully aided me in every possible way, and during a transient illness (for I was confined to my room for a week or so, and to my bed for a few days) he procured for me the best medical advice and took a great deal of trouble on my account. I lost some time by this, but fortunately I had nearly finished my work at the Herbarium, and afterwards I had ~~some~~ a few days to finish and to look at Kunth's Herbarium with which I was

rather disappointed. Kunthe was extremely polite and attentive to me. He is at work upon the the third Volume of his Enumeratio, but I fear it will not be very well done. I saw Ehrenberg frequently and dined once or twice, but nearly all my time was spent at Schoenbergh, where the Botanic Garden and Herbarium are situated, which is nearly a half-hour's ride from the City. The garden is much the finest in Germany and the Government annually expends very large sums upon it. The building exclusively devoted ^{to} the Herbarium is very commodious, tho' Klotzsch begins to complain that he has not sufficient room. It is so far from town that there are no loungers there and one may study perfectly undisturbed. I bought a few things for you from Klotzsch and sent which Pampshien is to send to-morrow -

Having lost some time by illness I did not go to Proctok, a most out-of-the-world place, although I suppose I shall hereafter regret that I did not see Comber's *Geranium*.

I spent several days at Fribourg, saw Lehmann, his Herbarium, and the Botanic garden; and took steamboat for London. Since my return I have been busily occupied in the city, completing some purchases for the Michigan University, and shall be mostly thus employed during the remainder of my stay—

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212. September —

I saw Dr. Richardson the day before yesterday who informed me that the *Cerberus* was still lying at Chatham, and (what I was not aware of) that I could reach Chatham in three or four hours. So I arranged at once to go down, and see Joseph before he started, but the next day I learned that the vessel had dropped down from that port.

I expect to sail (in the Toronto) from Portsmouth on the 1st. October - ^{very} I have ^{very} much to do. Yesterday I dined with Dr. Lindley and visited the garden. One wing of the Conservatory is covered & nearly covered with glass. It is entirely glass and iron, about 100 ft. long & will be magnificent. Believe me your very dear friend most truly yours, C. Briggs.